Promotion of breast feeding

2254. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government propose to take for the speedy implementation and enactment of the code on Protection of breast feeding; and

(b) whether any time schedule has been worked by Government; if so, what are the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) The Infant Milk Foods and Feeding Bottles Bill 1986 has been passed by the Rajya Sabha. The Bill, as passed by the Rajya Sabha. is being amended and is proposed to be introduced in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha in the current session.

Banning of Advertisements on Baby foods

2255. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have banned advertisements on baby foods since 1983; and

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the advertisements of Amul Baby Foods in "Hindustan Times" on the 18th September, 1988, "Femina" on the 23rd September, 1988 and the 'Nav Bharat Times" on the 25th September, 1988, in total disregard of the above ban and what corrective steps have been taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Government have suspended advertisements of baby foods in the official media namely, the All India Radio and Doordarshan. However, Government have no control over the print media. To provide legislative support to the Indian National Code, accepted on 19 December, 1983 the Infant Milk Foods and Feeding Bottles Bill 1986, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha. The Bill, as passed by the Rajya Sabha being amended and is proposed to be introduced in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha in the current session.

Supply of free samples of weaning foods to Hospitals

2256. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the infant food companies are supplying free samples of cereal foods, which are also called weaning foods like Cerelac Wheat, Cerelac Orange, to hospitals and doctors, contrary to Government policies;

(b) whether it is a fact that these products contain milk in addition to cereals; and

(c) whether any action is proposed to be taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Weaning foods may contain milk solids in addition to cereals vegetables proteins and carbohydrates.

(c) Government of India has adopted the Indian National Code for Protection and Promotion of Breast-Feeding in 1983. Baby food manufacturers in the Country are expected to cooperate with Government in the implementation of the Code. However, to provide legislative support to the Code, the Infant Milk Foods and Feeding-Bottles Bill, 1986 has been passed